

The Waterboro Recycler

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Publisher – Clinton Andrews- Transfer Station Manager

Maine State Planning Office Report for 2006 is completed

GREAT NEWS FOR WATERBORO!

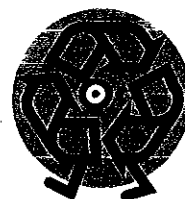
Every year by March 31st one of my duties as the transfer station manager is to supply the State of Maine Planning Office with accurate records of everything that passes through your transfer station & recycling center. This includes: household waste, sheetrock, shingles, metal, demolition debris, oil, wood waste, leaves and garden waste and the finished product compost, porcelain, stumps, bottles and cans, cardboard and paperboard, paper, plastics, tin cans and glass, universal waste including all electronics recycling, fluorescent lamps, thermostats, thermometers, ballasts, and compact fluorescent bulbs. This information is then used to calculate the town's adjusted recycling rate. Why is this important? Several years ago the state set a goal for all towns and cities, that goal is 50%. The goal has been extended twice as only a handful of municipalities were even close to achieving that goal. In the future a municipalities recycling rate will be used in the formula for calculating all state funding available to the towns and cities, so getting to this goal and

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REDUCE – REUSE - RECYCLE



WATERBORO RECYCLES

CARDBOARD – PAPERBOARD – FOOD BOXES
PACKAGING BOXES – NEWSPAPER – BOOKS
JUNK MAIL – OFFICE PAPER – MAGAZINES
SHREDDED PAPER – CATALOGS – BAGS
WRAPPING PAPER – GIFT BOXES
#1 THROUGH #7 PLASTICS – JAR LIDS
ALUMINUM FOIL AND FOOD CONTAINERS
RINSED TIN CANS – EMPTY AEROSOL CANS
METAL ITEMS – STEEL – BRASS
ALUMINUM – TIN - COPPER
RINSED GLASS JARS & BOTTLES – CHINA
RETURNABLE & NON- RETURNABLE
BOTTLES & CANS
UNBAGGED GRASS – LEAVES – HAY
NON WOODY PLANTS – MANURE – SAW DUST
PORCELAIN FIXTURES – BRICKS – CEMENT
CONCRETE & PATIO BLOCKS – CHIMNEY TILES

maintaining or increasing it will be extremely important in keeping your property taxes down, or up if the goal is not maintained. For 2006 the rate set by the state planning office based on accurate figures supplied to them in my annual report is a whopping 64.98%. The following shows the rates set since 1999.

WATERBORO'S RECYCLING RATE

1999-2006

1999	21.8%	2003	36%
2000	21.7%	2004	40.6%
2001	23.9%	2005	58.2%
2002	22.9%	2006	65%

Note: I want to make it extremely clear that the report I am required to complete is based on a calendar year January – December. Waterboro's fiscal year is July-June. This is important for one reason one half of the information calculated was during the last six months of the pay per bag year.

For more information see page three for a more detailed breakdown on how this recycling rate is achieved.

Transfer Station / Recycling Committee

Recyclers Report

By David Woodsome - Chairman

Your Transfer Station / Recycling Committee continues to promote awareness of the benefits and importance of REDUCING – REUSING – RECYCLING. The committee has worked on several issues for the past six months.

An updated Solid Waste Disposal & Control Ordinance has been submitted to the Selectpersons for review and approval.

To help celebrate Earth Day businesses, organizations, and individuals were asked to promote RECYCLING. The following did a wonderful and much appreciated job in doing just that: Merrill's Country Store, Agency One, Waterboro Town Hall, Waterboro Fire Department, JD's Redemption Center, Woodsome's Feeds & Needs, Free Baptist Church, Ossipee Mountaineers Snowmobile Club, The Lions' Club, South Waterboro Bible Chapel and Hannaford's

Food & Drug.

The committee had a very successful Reduce, Reuse and Recycle theme during the Waterboro Old Home Days and Parade. A "Build a Scarecrow" contest was sponsored; where 90% of the materials used to build the scarecrow had to be recycled or reused materials. All of the entries were creative and well presented as the scarecrows and their creators marched in the parade. The winners were, 1st place Crystal and Amber Arsenault earning them the \$75.00 first prize, 2nd place and a \$50.00 award went to Dave, Laura and Joshua Lowe and 3rd place went to Theresa Long, Cassie Duranceau and Erica Williams. All contestants received free movie rentals from the Waterboro Library and the Movie Gallery.

Willis Lord and Brigit McCullam were the Honorary King and Queen dressed in recyclable materials promoting the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Theme. A Recycling Booth was set up to promote recycling with many townsfolk stopping to talk and sign up for free drawings of compost and \$10.00 gift certificates. The winners were: Brian Gagnon, Cristilee Phinney, Betsey Watson, Dianne Holden, Sandy Toothaker, Tammy Jo Girard, and Jack Mahoney. Congratulations and a big "Thank You" to everyone who helped make Old Home Days a great success.

Awareness and education are the cornerstones of a successful recycling system. This coming fall the Waterboro schools will be addressing some of the issues involved in recycling. More information will be available as the programs are developed. School Superintendent Linda Greene has been very supportive and helpful. This is yet another positive step toward recycling awareness and the recycling committee appreciates the effort.

There are great financial savings in reusing, reducing and recycling. If the majority of Waterboro taxpayers seriously recycled their household waste a savings of up to \$200,000.00 in tipping fee costs could be realized and income from recycling paper, cardboard, plastics and tin cans would help offset costs at the transfer station & recycling center. Everyone's help and continued efforts are needed. The first step to successful recycling is to get started. If you now recycle, thank you, ask a friend to join you and make our world a little better environmentally.

Waterboro 2006 Analysis

Per Person

Municipal Trash Per Person In Tons	0.2954
Municipal Materials Recycled Per Person	0.0714
Bulky Waste Per Person in Tons	0.0457
Bulky Recycled Materials Per Person	0.2022
Total Material Recycled Per Person	0.3409
Total MSW Per Person In Tons	0.6820
Dollars Per Person	\$80.03
Dollars Per Ton of MSW	\$117.34

Percentages

Municipal Waste & Recyclables	53.79%
Bulky Waste & Recyclables	36.35%
Commercial Waste & Recyclables	9.86%

Municipal Recycling Rate HHW

Waterboro's Municipal Recycling rate for tons of Household Waste generated is 19.47%. The municipal recycling rate is calculated by dividing the tons of municipal recyclables by the tons of municipal household trash. This is a separate (independent) rate that reflects solely municipal recycling efforts; but these tonnages are included as part of the overall solid waste and recycling calculations of the state report.

Recycling Summary

Three components are used to calculate a community's **2006 Adjusted Recycling Rate**:

1. **Base Rate:** the base recycling rate is simply the percent of material recycled. This is calculated by dividing the total amount of material recycled by the total amount of municipal solid waste (including recycled tonnage) that has been generated.
2. **Bottle Bill Credit:** Each town receives a credit of five (5) recycling percentage points for beverage containers covered by Maine's mandatory deposit law.

3. **Compost Credits:** Waterboro receives 4 credits for a leaf and yard waste composting program plus the amount of tons composted for a maximum of ten (10) recycling percentage points.

4. The town's base rate of 49.98% is calculated by adding all the bulky waste and recycling listed in the report to the municipal HHW recycling rate. Then 5 credits for the bottle credit and 10 credits for the composting are added making the total 2006 adjusted recycling rate 64.98% or rounded off to 65%.

For the total 7-page report dated 7/17/07 go to the town website; there is a wealth of information that should interest you. The information in this article just touches on this very comprehensive and complex report dating from 1999 to 2006.

Waterboro Citizen Recognized

Willis Lord, former state legislator and town selectman, was recognized by ecomaine, formerly Regional Waste Systems for his long time commitment and contributions to recycling. Willis was awarded the 2007 eco-Excellence Award given by ecomaine an organization owned and operated by 21 municipalities in Southern Maine of which Waterboro is one of the owners. Willis was nominated by the Waterboro Recycling Committee.

Willis is presently serving his community as a volunteer serving as an ecomaine board member proudly representing his town and as a District 2 representative on the ecomaine Executive Committee representing Hollis, Limington, Lyman, Ogunquit, and Waterboro. He also serves on the ecomaine recycling committee and the Waterboro Transfer Station & Recycling Committee.

Currently Willis is very active in working with the schools and businesses educating them to the many benefits of recycling.

Congratulations Willis and thank your for your service to your community and your commitment to recycling.

DID YOU KNOW?

Recycling 1 aluminum can saves one cup of gasoline !

24% of the weight of the average rubbish bag is packaging !

BACK YARD BURNING

BANNED

I am covering this subject here because it is a question I am asked frequently from folks coming to the transfer station.

In 2001 the 120th Maine Legislature enacted a law that bans the outdoor burning of trash. Burning trash in campfires, outdoor fireplaces and any type of open or closed container, such as burn barrels, is against the law. This ban also applies to the burning of construction and demolition debris containing plastics (vinyl), rubber, styrofoam, metal, food wastes and chemicals.

It is bad to burn trash. The amount of PVC plastics in household trash and the incomplete combustion and low temperatures characteristic of burn barrels, result in the formation of dioxins. A study of dioxin air emissions in Maine revealed that back yard burning was responsible for more than 25% of the dioxins released to Maine air.



Plain and simple, it's downright dangerous to breathe smoke from outdoor burning. Health risks include:

- Aggravated asthma & respiratory ailments
- Impaired growth & development of children
- Substantial cancer risk
- Increased risk of diabetes, endometriosis and damage to the reproductive system.

COMPOST

In 2006 we processed an estimated 450 tons of leaves, grass clippings, non-woody plant material, sawdust, manure, pine needles, and garden waste. This spring we loaded taxpayer vehicles with 201 yards of free processed compost. This does not include all those folks that shoveled the material into their vehicles. Please remember to bring in the above material so that we can surpass last year's totals.

PLANET AID BOXES

The Planet aid bins are in place at the transfer station and are being heavily used. Place your unwanted, useable, clothing and shoes in plastic bags and deposit them in the bins when you bring down your household waste. Keep in mind every pound of unwanted clothing and shoes saves tipping fees and helps to cloth or buy medicine for people in need.

WHAT IF I BREAK A FLUORESCENT BULB IN MY HOME? THIS INCLUDES COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS.

The most important thing to remember is to NEVER use a vacuum. A standard vacuum will spread mercury containing dust throughout your home as well as contaminating the vacuum.

What you should do is:

- Ventilate the area.
- If possible, reduce the temperature.
- Wear gloves, safety glasses, coveralls or old clothing, and a dust mask to keep bulb dust and glass from being inhaled.
- Carefully remove the larger pieces and place them in a secure container.
- Next, begin collecting the smaller pieces and the dust. There are several ways to do this. You can use a disposable broom and dustpan, two stiff pieces of paper or one of the commercially available mercury spill kits.
- Put all the material into a plastic bag. Pat the area with the sticky side of duct, packing or masking tape. Wipe the area with a damp disposable cloth.
- Put all the waste and materials used to clean up the bulb in the secure closed container and label it "Universal Waste-broken lamp"
- Bring your container for proper disposal and recycling as universal waste to your transfer station.
- Remember, the next time you change a bulb, be sure to put a disposable drop cloth on the floor so that any accidental breakage can easily be cleaned up.

MORE DID YOU KNOW ?

It is estimated that almost 7 million plastic bags are used each week by Maine Shoppers.

65% of the average trash bags are filled with rubbish that could be either recycled or composted.

Recycling a stack of newspapers 3 feet high can save one tree, one tree can filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air each year.